

What is claimed is:

1. A data printing system, comprising:

an image capturing apparatus, including a memory for storing individual unit identification information of said image capturing apparatus;

a print service administration apparatus, connected to a network, for administering image data printing and for receiving image data recorded by said image capturing apparatus; and

a print processing apparatus, connected to said network, for executing a printing process in accordance with an instruction from said print service administration apparatus;

wherein said individual unit identification information and said image data are transmitted from said image capturing apparatus to said print service administration apparatus; and, said printing process by said print processing apparatus is administered by establishing a logical linkage between said individual unit identification information and said image data.

2. The data printing system of claim 1, wherein said print service administration apparatus administers said printing process in accordance with said image data and corresponding order receiving ID.

3. The data printing system of claim 1, wherein said print service administration apparatus includes a means for notifying to a user of said printing system a ready state to provide a printed copy of said image data.

4. The data printing system of claim 1, wherein said individual unit identification information includes provider identification information and independent manufacturing information.

5. The data printing system of claim 4, wherein said provider identification information and said independent manufacturing information are those defined in USB 2.0 standards.

6. The data printing system of claim 1, wherein said image data is stored in an image data recording area of a data file and said individual unit identification information is stored

either in a header part or in a job descriptor part of said data file.

7. The data printing system of claim 6, wherein said image data and said individual unit identification information are stored in said data file in accordance with DPOF standards.

8. The data printing system of claim 6, wherein at least a part of said individual unit identification information is stored in a vendor unique portion of said job descriptor part.

9. The data printing system of claim 1, wherein said image data is stored in an image data recording area of a data file and said individual unit identification information is stored in a tag portion of a data file.

10. The data printing system of claim 9, wherein said image data and said individual unit identification information are stored in said data file in accordance with Exif standards.

11. An image capturing apparatus, comprising:

a memory for storing individual unit identification information, being unique to each of said image capturing apparatus; and

a transmission means for transmitting said individual unit identification information in said memory to an external information processing apparatus.

12. The image capturing apparatus of claim 11, comprising:

a receiving means for receiving a request signal of said individual unit identification information from said external information processing apparatus; and

a control means for controlling said transmission means so as to transmit said individual unit identification information to said external information processing apparatus in response to said request signal.

13. The image capturing apparatus of claim 11, comprising:

a power receiving means for receiving electric power from said external information processing apparatus;

wherein at least said transmission means is operable by electric power received from said external information processing apparatus.

14. The image capturing apparatus of claim 11, comprising:
a transmission state selection means for switching a
state of transmission of said individual unit identification
information between transmissible and not-transmissible.

15. The image capturing apparatus of claim 11, comprising:
a display means for displaying said individual unit
identification information.

16. The image capturing apparatus of claim 11, wherein said
individual unit identification information includes provider
identification information and independent manufacturing
information of said image capturing apparatus.

17. The image capturing apparatus of claim 11, wherein said
memory stores at least a first individual unit identification
information and a second individual unit identification
information; and said image capturing apparatus comprises:
an identification information selection means for
selecting one of said first individual unit identification
information and said second individual unit identification
information as said individual unit identification
information.

18. An image capturing apparatus, to which a memory media is attachable, comprising:

a memory for storing individual unit identification information, being unique to each of said image capturing apparatus;

an image data recording means for recording image data captured by said image capturing apparatus and stored in said memory; and

an writing means for writing said individual unit identification information onto said memory media.

19. The image capturing apparatus of claim 18, wherein said image data is stored in a recording area in said memory media; and said individual unit identification information is stored either in a header part or in a job descriptor part of said data file.

20. The image capturing apparatus of claim 19, wherein at least a part of said individual unit identification information is stored in a vendor unique portion of said job descriptor part.

21. The image capturing apparatus of claim 18, wherein said image data is stored in a recording area in said memory media; and said individual unit identification information is stored in a tag portion of said data file.

22. The image capturing apparatus of claim 18, comprising:

a storage state selection means for switching a state of writing of said individual unit identification information by said writing means between writable and not-writable.

23. A print service reception processing apparatus, capable of a communication with an image capturing apparatus, comprising:

an image data upload means for reading image data stored in said image capturing apparatus;

an identification information reading means for reading individual unit identification information which is stored in said image capturing apparatus; and

a transmission means for transmitting said image data and said individual unit identification information through a network.

24. The print service reception processing apparatus of claim 23, wherein said print service reception processing apparatus requests said image capturing apparatus to transmit said individual unit identification information.

25. The print service reception processing apparatus of claim 23, wherein said print service reception processing apparatus executes a process to relate said image data to said individual unit identification information.

26. The print service reception processing apparatus of claim 23, comprising:

a display means for displaying an image in accordance with said image data read by said image data upload means;

an image selection input means for inputting a selection of an image from images displayed in said display means;

an order input means for inputting a print order of said image selected by said image selection input means; and

an order information generation means for generating a piece of order information which is related to said individual unit identification information in accordance with said print order;

wherein said transmission means transmits said order information to other information processing apparatus.

27. A print service reception processing apparatus, capable of coupling with a memory media in which image data is stored, comprising:

an image data reading means for reading image data stored in said memory media;

an identification information reading means for reading individual unit identification information which is stored in said memory media; and

a transmission means for transmitting said image data and said individual unit identification information through a network.

28. A print service administration apparatus, comprising:

an identification information receiving means for receiving individual unit identification information of an image capturing apparatus owned by a customer;

an image data receiving means for receiving image data of said image capturing apparatus; and

an image data storing means for storing said image data in relation to said individual unit identification information.

29. The print service administration apparatus of claim 28, wherein said individual unit identification information includes provider identification information and independent manufacturing identification information.

30. The print service administration apparatus of claim 28, comprising:

an access ID receiving means for receiving an access ID transmitted from a client terminal which is connected to a network;

a comparison means for comparing said access ID with said individual unit identification information and for generating a comparison result; and

an access restriction means for restricting an access from said client terminal in accordance with said comparison result.

31. The print service administration apparatus of claim 28, comprising:

an image data generation means for generating display image data for display in accordance with said image data received by said image data receiving means; and

a display image transmission means for transmitting said display image data.

32. The print service administration apparatus of claim 29, comprising:

an advertisement information memory means for storing advertisement information;

a display advertisement information generation means for generating display advertisement information for display in accordance with said provider identification information and said advertisement information; and

a display advertisement information transmission means for transmitting said display advertisement information.

33. The print service administration apparatus of claim 28, comprising:

a personal information receiving means for receiving personal information; and

a personal information memory means for storing said personal information in relation to said individual unit identification information.

34. The print service administration apparatus of claim 28, comprising:

a print order information receiving means for receiving print order information of said image data; and

a print order information memory means for storing said print order information in relation to said individual unit identification information.

35. The print service administration apparatus of claim 34, comprising:

a print order processing state memory means for storing a print order processing state in accordance with said print order information in relation to said individual unit identification information; and

a print order processing state transmission means for transmitting said print order processing state in response to a reference request with said individual unit identification information.

36. A print processing apparatus, comprising:

an identification information receiving means for receiving individual unit identification information of an image capturing apparatus owned by a customer;

an image data receiving means for receiving image data which has a relationship with said individual unit identification information;

a first image forming means for forming an image in a memory medium in accordance with said image data; and

a second image forming means for recording said individual unit identification information in said memory medium or for forming an image in said memory medium in correspondence with said individual unit identification information.

37. The print processing apparatus of claim 36, wherein said individual unit identification information includes provider identification information and independent manufacturing identification information.

38. The print processing apparatus of claim 36, comprising:

an advertisement information memory means for storing advertisement information which is in relation to provider

identification information of said individual unit identification information; and
an advertisement image selection means for selecting advertisement image data in correspondence with said provider identification information;
wherein said first image forming means forms an image in accordance with said advertisement image data selected by said advertisement image selection means.

39. The print processing apparatus of claim 36, comprising:
an individual unit identification information detection means for detecting said individual unit identification information in accordance with said individual unit identification information, stored in said memory medium, or said image, formed in said memory medium in correspondence with said individual unit identification information; and
a recording medium processing means for processing said recording medium, in which said image is formed, in accordance with said individual unit identification information detected by said individual unit identification information detection means.

40. A data file configured to include an image data in relation to the information comprising:

image data captured by an image capture apparatus; and individual unit identification information being unique to each of said image capture apparatus;
wherein said individual unit identification information corresponds to said image data.

41. A memory medium wherein said data file of claim 40 is stored.

42. The memory medium of claim 41, wherein said memory medium is an image information memory means in a print service administration apparatus to administer image data of a customer.

43. The memory medium of claim 41, wherein said memory medium is capable of being coupled with said image capturing apparatus.

44. The data file of claim 40, wherein said individual unit identification information is stored as a header portion or a tag portion of said image data.

45. The data file of claim 40, wherein said individual unit identification information is stored as a file in correspondence with said image data.

46. A memory medium for storing an image data in relation to the information comprising:

image data captured by an image capture apparatus; and
individual unit identification information being unique
to each of said image capture apparatus;
wherein said individual unit identification information
corresponds to said image data.

47. The memory medium of claim 46, wherein said memory medium is an image information memory means in a print service administration apparatus to administer image data of a customer.

48. The memory medium of claim 46, wherein said memory medium is capable of being coupled with said image capturing apparatus.

49. A print service method in use with a network to which there are connected an image capturing apparatus for capturing and recording image data; a print service administration apparatus for administering a print process of said image data; and a print processing apparatus for printing an image in response to a command from said print service administration apparatus, comprising the steps of:

transmitting said image data, captured and recorded by said image capturing apparatus, and individual unit identification information, being unique to each of said image capturing apparatus, to said print service administration apparatus in which said image data and said individual unit identification information are related to each other;

storing information, which is sent from said image capturing apparatus, into said print service administration apparatus; and

transmitting said image data, corresponding to said individual unit identification information, from said print service administration apparatus to said print processing apparatus when said print service administration apparatus receives said individual unit identification information together with a printing order.

50. The print service method of claim 49, wherein a print service reception processing apparatus for uploading said image data to said print service administration apparatus is connected to said network; and said print service reception processing apparatus transmits said image data, captured and stored by said image capturing apparatus, and said individual unit identification information to said print service administration apparatus in which said image data and individual unit identification information are related to each other.

51. The print service method of claim 49, comprising the step of:

notifying to a user of said print service method a ready state to provide a printed copy of said image data.

52. A print service method for forming an image in accordance with image data captured by an image capturing apparatus, comprising the steps of:

reading individual unit identification apparatus, being unique to each of said image capturing apparatus and preloaded to said image capturing apparatus;

reading said image data, captured by said image capturing apparatus and stored therein;

relating said individual unit identification apparatus to said image data;

storing said image data related to said individual unit identification apparatus;

selecting a piece of image data from said image data stored by said storing step of image data;

inputting a printing order of said selected piece of image data;

generating order information in relation to said individual unit identification information in accordance with said printing order inputted by said inputting step;

forming an image in a recording medium in accordance with said image data and said order information; and

recording said individual unit identification information or said image, in correspondence with said individual unit identification information, in said recording medium.

53. A print service reception processing method in use with a print service reception processing apparatus which is connected to a network, comprising the steps of:

reading image data which is captured by an image capturing apparatus;

reading individual unit identification information, being unique to each of said image capturing apparatus and preloaded to said image capturing apparatus; and

transmitting said image data and said individual unit identification information through said network.

54. The print service reception processing method of claim 53, wherein said print service reception processing apparatus reads said image data and said individual unit identification information by communicating with said image capturing apparatus.

55. The print service reception processing method of claim 54, comprising the step of:

requesting to said image capturing apparatus a transmittance of said individual unit identification information.

56. The print service reception processing method of claim 53, wherein said print service reception processing apparatus is capable of being coupled with a memory medium; and said

print service reception processing apparatus reads said image data and said individual unit identification information which are stored in said memory medium.

57. The print service reception processing method of claim 53, comprising the step of:

relating said image data to said individual unit identification information.

58. The print service reception processing method of claim 53, comprising the steps of:

displaying images in accordance with said image data;
inputting a selection of an image from said images;
inputting a print order of said image selected by said selection;

generating order information in relation to said individual unit identification information in accordance with said print order; and
transmitting said order information.

59. A print service administration method in use with a print service administration apparatus which is connected to a network, comprising the steps of:

receiving individual unit identification information of
an image capturing apparatus owned by a customer;

receiving image data from said image capturing
apparatus; and

storing said image data in relation to said individual
unit identification information.

60. The print service administration method of claim 59,
comprising the steps of:

receiving an access ID transmitted from a client
terminal which is connected to said network;

comparing said access ID with said individual unit
identification information and for generating a comparison
result; and

restricting an access from said client terminal in
accordance with said comparison result.

61. The print service administration method of claim 59,
comprising the steps of:

generating display image data for display in accordance
with said image data received by said image data receiving
means; and

transmitting said display image data.

62. The print service administration method of claim 59,
wherein said individual unit identification information
includes provider identification information, comprising the
steps of:

generating display advertisement information for
display in accordance with said provider identification
information and said advertisement information; and
transmitting said display advertisement information.

63. The print service administration method of claim 59,
comprising the steps of:

receiving personal information; and
storing said personal information in relation to said
individual unit identification information.

64. The print service administration method of claim 59,
comprising the steps of:

receiving print order information of said image data;
and
storing said print order information in relation to
said individual unit identification information.

65. The print service administration method of claim 64,
comprising the steps of:

storing a print order processing state in accordance
with said print order information in relation to said
individual unit identification information; and

transmitting said print order processing state in
response to a reference request with said individual unit
identification information.

66. A print processing method, comprising the steps of:

receiving individual unit identification information of
an image capturing apparatus owned by a customer;

receiving image data which has a relationship with said
individual unit identification information;

forming an image in a memory medium in accordance with
said image data; and

recording said individual unit identification
information in said memory medium or for forming an image in
said memory medium in correspondence with said individual
unit identification information.

67. The print processing method of claim 66, comprising the
steps of:

selecting advertisement image data in correspondence with provider identification information which is included in said individual unit identification information;

forming an image in accordance with said advertisement image data selected by said step of selecting said advertisement image data.

68. The print processing method of claim 66, comprising the steps of:

detecting said individual unit identification information in accordance with said individual unit identification information, recorded in said memory medium, or said image, formed in said memory medium in correspondence with said individual unit identification information; and

processing said recording medium, in which said image is formed, in accordance with said individual unit identification information detected by said step of detecting said individual unit identification information.